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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Mark J. Burzynski et al : GROUP ART UNIT: 3763  
SERIAL NO.: 09/360,877 :  
FILING DATE: July 23, 1999 : EXAMINER: Nguyen  
TITLE: SELF-BLUNTING NEEDLE MEDICAL :  
DEVICES AND METHODS OF :  
MANUFACTURE THEREOF : ATTY. DOCKET: P-1522-1

**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

January 29, 2001

Dear Sir:

**In the Claims**

Please amend claim 31 as follows.

17 31. (Twice Amended) A method for assembling a self-blunting needle device for a syringe, the device comprising an internal component comprising a blunting member and an external component comprising a needle cannula having an axially-extending through-bore therein, the method comprising advancing the blunting member into contact with a guide surface configured to lead axially to the through-bore to guide the blunting member into the bore and advancing the blunting member along said guide surface and into the through-bore without engaging a catch surface perpendicular to the needle cannula, to produce an assembled device.

**REMARKS**

This paper is responsive to the telephone conference between Examiner Nguyen and the undersigned attorney on January 29, 2001.

During said conference, agreement was reached on the allowability of claim 31 subject to the foregoing amendment, support for which is found in the specification at page 10, lines 2-8. The purpose of the amendment is to clarify the meaning of the phrase "guide surface configured to lead axially to the through-bore" and to thus highlight the distinction that phrase pro-

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